

REMARKS

Claim Objections

Claims 26, 30, 34, 35 and 36 stand objected to because the word “bolide” is misspelled. In response, Applicants have amended these claims, as well as other claims, to replace the term “bolide” with –boride–. Accordingly, Applicants request that the objections to the claims be withdrawn.

Section 102 Rejection

Claims 10-13, 15-17, 19-40, 42, 44, 46-49 and 51 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Kim et al. (U.S. 6,004,882, hereinafter Kim). In response, Applicants submit a Declaration under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 evidencing a reduction to practice of the present invention prior to Feb. 5, 1997, the earliest priority date for the Kim reference. The Declaration under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 further evidences conception from prior to Feb. 5, 1997 until filing of the earliest priority application (January 20, 1998) for the present application. Based upon submission of the Declaration under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131, Applicants maintain that the present application is allowable as not anticipated under 35 U.S.C. § 102 by Kim.

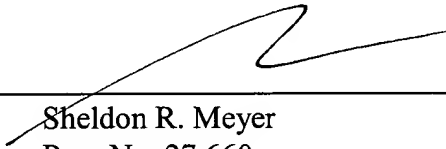
Conclusion

In light of the above amendments and remarks, claims 10-13, 15-17, 19-40, 42, 44 and 46-49 and 51 are all believed in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of these claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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